

Preliminary Alternative 28
Corresponding to Alternative Formulation Strategy 1A, 2B, 3B, 4B- Max)

Primary Conflict	Approach to Resolve Conflict
Fisheries and Diversions (Conflict 1)	Increase Fish Productivity (1A) Diversion Modification (1B)
Habitat and Land Use/Flood Protection (Conflict 2)	Preserve Existing Land Use (2A) Create Additional Habitat Area (2B)
Water Supply Availability and Beneficial Uses (Conflict 3)	Reduce Critical Export Area Demands (3A) Enhance Delta Supplies as Inflows (3B)
Water Quality and Land Use (Conflict 4)	Managing Quality of Delta Inflow (4A) Manage Instream/In-Delta Water Quality (4B)
Minimum or Maximum	

Solution Overview

Preliminary Alternative 28 generates substantial new benefits. This particular strategy relies upon boosting fish productivity, creation of habitat, increases in water availability north of the Delta, and reduction in the impact of toxics -- all at a maximal level. Thus, the solution generates: significant amounts of new habitat, both aquatic and terrestrial; environmental flows and user water supplies (via storage and demand management in and above the Delta); removal of some barriers and the installation of other barriers to promote fish migration; hatcheries for salmon; an environmentally friendly through Delta water transfer scheme; Some measures to reduce the impacts of salinity; and levee and flood control improvements.

Actions Selected

Habitat - Habitats are improved across the board. All types of aquatic, wetland, and terrestrial habitat are enhanced, both in and out of the Delta. Improvements include restoration of habitat, and removal and installation of barriers as needed to channel migrating anadromous fish away from bad habitat and into good habitat. Improvements are also made in upstream temperature patterns for salmon.

Populations - Measures are taken to boost commercial and recreational fish populations through hatcheries. Also, measures are taken to discriminate against undesirable species via exotic species control and predator control.

Diversions - This strategy does not allow for measures aimed at reducing the impacts of diversions on fish. However, the impact of existing diversion points is reduced via habitat improvements. In particular, this alternative includes significant restoration of shallow water habitat in the Central Delta. this restoration should reduce net velocities toward the pumps and should reduce the impacts of pumping from the South Delta. Also, the capacity of the export facilities is increased to allow greater diversions of water during periods of low impact. In this way, export supplies can be increased without cutting into environmental supplies.

Water use - All types of environmental flows are improved, including transport, attraction, and baseline flows. Exports also increase, as described under "Diversions". Improved flows are generated partly through demand management in and above the Delta, but primarily through major new storage elements in and above the Delta - a combination of on-stream, off stream, and groundwater storage. In this way, wet period flows are captured for use during periods of high competition.

Water quality - Barriers are installed in the South Delta to reduce the salinity of water for farming and weirs are installed to reduce salinity intrusion.

Land use/ levees/ flood control - Significant amounts of existing land uses are converted into both habitat and water storage. Major efforts are made to protect levees better. The creation of floodways in the upstream areas as habitat should improve flood control protection.

Institutions - A number of institutional changes may be necessary for this alternative, including: changes in law to promote groundwater storage and conjunctive use; better regulation of commercial and recreational fishing; water pricing measures, funding mechanisms, and the development of institutions to assure that the system is operated as promised in the future.

Preliminary Assessment

The proposed alternative is a significant improvement from the no action case. It should greatly expand fish habitat and populations while allowing for increased diversions. Its weaknesses have to do with the absence of actions which are ruled out by this strategy. In particular, south of Delta storage and other methods of reducing the draw on the Delta by the export areas are ruled out. Similarly, efforts aimed at reducing the impacts of diversions (screening, shifting intake points) are also ruled out. This means that export areas continue to heavily constrained in the Delta, with problems moving water during periods of high environmental sensitivity (because of the location of the intakes) and limitations on the ability to move and store water during periods of low environmental sensitivity. Finally, restrictions on the ability to include actions dealing the pollution source control mean that water quality will remain degraded.

11/28/95

Category	Actions Selected	Functional Basis for Inclusion	Specification for Action Implementation
Restoration of Delta Shallow Water (Tidal) Habitat	-Convert existing leveed lands to tidal action Habitat	Habitat	
	-Protect existing shallow habitat from erosion Habitat	Habitat	
	-Restore tidal action to existing diked wetlands Habitat	Habitat	
	-Reconstruct levees to include shallow water habitat Habitat	Habitat	
Restoration of Delta Riverine Habitat	-Fill deep water to produce shallow habitat Habitat	Habitat	
	-Reconstruct river banks and shallow areas Habitat	Habitat	
	-Restore/preserve channel islands Habitat	Habitat	
	-Restore natural channel configurations Habitat	Habitat	
Restoration of Delta Riparian Habitat	-Modify construction practices to include riverine elements Habitat	Habitat	
	-Improve and protect degraded riparian habitats Habitat	Habitat	
	-Establish new areas of riparian habitat Habitat	Habitat	
	-Reestablish historic riparian areas Habitat	Habitat	
Restoration of Delta Wetland Habitat	-Expand wetland acquisition programs Habitat	Habitat	
	-Protect existing riparian habitat Habitat	Habitat	
	-Convert agricultural lands to wetlands Habitat	Habitat	
Restoration of Delta Terrestrial Habitat	-Reallocate levees to widen floodways Habitat	Habitat	
	-Allow river channels to meander Habitat	Habitat	
Control of Introduced Species	-Acquire Delta islands as overflow areas Habitat	Habitat	
	-Restore floodways as habitat corridors Habitat	Habitat	
	-Remove or reduce nuisance species in key habitats Habitat	Habitat	
	-Inspect for invasions of nuisance species Habitat	Habitat	
Delta Waterfowl Habitat Management	-Modify habitat to favor native species Habitat	Habitat	
	-Manage crops for waterfowl forage production Habitat	Habitat	
	-Improve management of public waterfowl areas Habitat	Habitat	
	-Implement terrestrial predator control programs Habitat	Habitat	
	-Increase sources and availability of wildlife forage Habitat	Habitat	
Restoration of Upstream Anadromous Fish Habitat	-Manage flows and temperatures in upstream habitats Habitat	Habitat	
	-Manage flows in upstream habitats Habitat	Habitat	
	-Manage temperatures in upstream habitats Habitat	Habitat	
	-Restore and replenish spawning gravels Habitat	Habitat	
	-Restore channel configurations Habitat	Habitat	
	-Restore shoreline habitat conditions Habitat	Habitat	
Physical Improvements for Fish Passage	-Improve floodway drainage to reduce fish stranding Habitat	Habitat	
	-Modify passage at upstream dams/other barriers Habitat	Habitat	
	-Modify natural barriers to improve passage Habitat	Habitat	
	-Restrict livestock grazing in riparian corridors Habitat	Habitat	
	-Revegetate degraded riparian habitats Habitat	Habitat	
Restoration of Upstream Riparian Habitat	-Protect riparian lands through purchases/assessments Habitat	Habitat	
	-Modify floodways to support wetland habitats Habitat	Habitat	
	-Reuse agricultural drainages to create wetlands Habitat	Habitat	
	-Reuse urban wastewater effluent to create wetlands Habitat	Habitat	
	-Manage ground/water recharge for wetland habitat Habitat	Habitat	
Delta Inflow Management	-Decrease upstream diversions Water Use	Water Use	
	-Modify upstream reservoir operations Water Use	Water Use	
	-Provide instream pulse flows for fish passage Water Use	Water Use	
	-Provide instream flows for fish allocation Water Use	Water Use	
	-Acquire water to augment instream flows Water Use	Water Use	
	-Acquire water for refuge habitat use Water Use	Water Use	
Acquire Water Supplies for Fish and Wildlife	-Obtain shifts in timing of instream flows Water Use	Water Use	
	-Modify water law to establish instream rights Water Use	Water Use	
Installation of Barriers to Guide Fish Movement	-Install barriers to divert fish from Sacramento to western channel Populations	Populations	
Fish Hatchery Operations	-Expand hatchery capacities Populations	Populations	
	-Construct new hatcheries on the San Joaquin R. Populations	Populations	

	Populations	Improve hatchery operations
	Populations	Reduce hatchery effects on wild fish populations
	Populations	Implement tagging of hatchery-bred fish
	Populations	Establish new captive breeding programs
Fish Harvest Management	Institutional	Improve regulation of commercial lake
	Institutional	Improve regulation of recreational lake
	Institutional	Improve enforcement of harvest regulations
Desalination	Water Use	Expand desalination of San Joaquin Valley supplies
	Water Use	Increase use of district-wide conservation practices
	Water Use	Increase use of on-farm conservation practices
Water Conservation	Water Use	Increase use of municipal conservation practices
	Water Use	Increase use of industrial conservation practices
	Water Use	Implement financial incentive policies
Water Reclamation	Water Use	Educate users about conservation technologies
	Water Use	Implement conservation-oriented rate structures
	Water Use	Recharge groundwater with reclaimed water
	Water Use	Use reclaimed water for agricultural irrigation
	Water Use	Reclaim saline agricultural drainage water
	Water Use	Recycle and treat water for potable reuse
	Water Use	Use reclaimed water for nonpotable urban uses
	Water Use	Use reclaimed water for landscape irrigation
	Water Use	Use reclaimed water for power plant cooling
	Water Use	Use reclaimed water for industrial processes
	Water Use	Use reclaimed water to repel salinity intrusion
	Water Use	Improve reclamation technologies and cost
	Water Use	Educate public about water reclamation
	Water Use	Encourage land fallowing during drought periods
	Water Use	Develop incentive programs for land retirement
Land Retirement and Fallowing	Water Use	Purchase lands or easements
	Water Use	Establish incentives for pricing to reduce demand
	Water Use	Educate users about pricing feasibility
Water Pricing	Institutional	Remove legal obstacles to pricing incentive programs
	Water Use	Manage land uses to protect water quality
	Water Quality	Manage vegetation cover to increase yield
	Water Use	Modify weather to increase precipitation
	Water Use	Construct new storage north of Delta
	Water Use	Enlarge existing on-stream storage reservoirs
New or Expanded On-Stream Storage	Water Use	Construct new storage north of Delta
	Water Use	Enlarge existing off-stream storage reservoirs
	Water Use	Modify operations of existing off-stream reservoirs
	Water Use	Modify California Water Code to encourage conjunctive use
	Water Use	Establish conjunctive use programs
	Water Use	Store groundwater north of Delta
Groundwater Banking and Conjunctive Use	Water Use	Implement techniques to increase groundwater recharge
	Water Use	Increase capacities of existing east-side channels
	Water Use	Increase flows from the Sacramento R. to the Central Delta
Improvement of Through-Delta Conveyance	Water Use	Modify Delta levees to increase flow cross-sections
	Water Use	
	Water Use	

Long-Term Planning for Drought Contingencies	-Expand existing intakes at the Delta export facilities -Increase water storage capacities at user locations -Establish long-term guarantees for management	Water Use Water Use Institutional	Upstream of Delta/In Delta only
Integration of Land-Use and Water-Supply Planning	Coordinate land uses with water supplies -Install flow barriers to manage South Delta quality	Institutional Water Quality	
Installation and Operation of Flow Barriers	Install weirs to control salinity intrusion Manage drainage timing to reduce instream impacts	Water Quality Water Quality	
Management of Agricultural Drainage	Dike pollutants in Delta inflows from SAR using stored water -Increase key nutrient inputs to estuary	Water Quality Water Quality	
Management of Urban and Wastewater Discharge	-Relocate levees to more stable sites -Widen floodways to increase flood conveyance	Land use/leves/flood control Land use/leves/flood control	
Improvement of Flooding & Seismic Protections	-Establish and manage flood overflow areas -Maintain/reconstruct levees around infrastructure	Land use/leves/flood control Land use/leves/flood control	
Rerouting and Protection of Infrastructure	-Reconstruct infrastructure to increase reliability -Relocate/reroute infrastructure	Land use/leves/flood control Land use/leves/flood control	
	Establishment of Long-Term Funding Mechanisms	Institutional	

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